

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121, please substitute for original claims 3 and 5, the following rewritten versions of the same claims, as amended. The changes are shown explicitly in the attached "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

C² 3. (Amended) The method according to claim 14, wherein the primary design antibody comprises CDRs of an antibody of a first animal species, and FRs of an antibody of a second animal species and having artificial amino acid residues that do not occur in nature.

C³ 5. (Amended) The method according to claim 14, wherein the artificial amino acid residues are ones occurring in the FRs of non-human antibody.

14. (New) A method for preparing a humanized antibody, wherein a framework region ("FR") in the humanized antibody is a FR naturally occurring in human antibodies, comprising the steps of:

(1) Obtaining a primary design antibody which is humanized by a grafting of a complementarity determining region ("CDR") and which is substituted in one or more amino acid residues of the FR with artificial amino acids that do not occur in nature;

C⁴ (2) conducting a homology search using a database of amino acid sequences of FRs naturally occurring in human antibodies ("natural FRs") in comparison with a FR sequence of the primary design antibody;

~~PREPARED BY LUPAT METHOD~~
(3) preparing a list of amino acid sequences of the natural FRs having a high homology with the FR sequence in the primary design antibody;

(4) selecting, from the list of step (3), a natural FR which contains a sequence that matches amino acids sequences substituted in step (1), and comprises an amino acid sequence that is the same as or has a high homology with the FR sequence of the primary design antibody;

(5) if the FR sequence of the primary design antibody has one or more amino acids that are different from amino acids of the natural FR selected in step (4),

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replacing said different amino acids in the FR sequence of the primary design antibody with corresponding amino acids in the natural FR;

- C14
- (6) constructing an expression vector expressing an amino acid sequence of the antibody obtained via steps (1) to (5);
 - (7) culturing cells comprising an expression vector constructed in step (6); and
 - (8) recovering the humanized antibody comprising the natural FR from the culture.
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